

State of Connecticut

Department of Correction

Program Development

Alphabetical Listing of Programs for WILLARD-CYBULSKI

Action Drama

Description

The Action Drama Program is a highly acclaimed inmate outreach drama program which brings to youth around the state its message of choices and taking responsibility for the results of one's at-risk behavior. The program consists of a hard-hitting drama, inmate/cast testimonies, and interactive question and answer session. The performances, averaging one per week for the ten months of the school year, occur both in the Willard/Cybulski visiting room and throughout Connecticut.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

Addiction Services Tier 1 Substance Abuse Education Program

Description

The Tier 1 program consists of six (6) substance abuse education group sessions, including a minimum of one fellowship meeting. This program is designed to present basic substance abuse information, confront denial, and encourage further treatment involvement.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Addiction Services Tier 2 Intensive Outpatient Program

Description

The Tier 2 Program is an intensive outpatient Addiction Services program with 30 curriculum sessions for 10 weeks. Group components are held three times weekly and incorporate weekly fellowship meetings to lay the foundation of basic substance abuse information, promote personal identification with recovery, and motivate further treatment involvement.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Description

ABE is the primary program of instruction designed to provide training in basic academic skills in the areas of reading, mathematics, language arts, general science and social studies. The program is directed toward increasing proficiency to the eighth grade level.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Alcoholics Anonymous

Description

This is a 12-Step Fellowship self-help group for men and women who provide mutual support in obtaining and maintaining sobriety while also helping others to recover from alcoholism. Meetings, in a variety of formats (Big Book, Step Meetings, Speaker, etc.), are held on a weekly basis. Addiction Services staff coordinate the meetings and provide oversight for the program.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

Auto Body Technology

Description

This program emphasizes the fundamentals of safety, welding, straightening, refinishing, mechanical principles, manual skills, framework and good work habits. Students complete 300 hours of theory and 600 hours of shop practice. The program includes safety, metalworking, surface preparation, painting, glass and estimating. This vocational training prepares inmates to acquire a skilled, well-paying job in the community.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Bridging the Gap

Description

Alcoholics Anonymous is one of the most important self-help resources for alcoholic men and women. A very important first step for inmates being released into the community is attending the first meeting as soon as possible following release. Addiction Services staff in the institution utilize a toll-free telephone number to get information about the nearest AA meeting location, along with the name of a contact person. An AA member then will contact the inmate upon release and even provide transportation to a meeting.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Cage Your Rage

Description

This program teaches inmates about anger, teaches inmates how anger is different from aggression, and teaches inmates how to manage their anger without becoming aggressive. The program uses both a workbook and accompanying videos.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management, Self Improvement

Catholic Mass

Description

This is the weekly Catholic worship service.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Worship Services

Community Details

Description

In this program minimum security inmates who are determined eligible and suitable, work for local towns, the Connecticut Department of Transportation, or eligible non-profit organizations providing various maintenance tasks. In addition to providing a community service, the experience assists inmates in developing good work habits. The inmates are supervised by trained employees from the jurisdiction where they work.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Work Group

CONNTAC-EOC (CT Talent Assistance Cooperative-Education Opportunity Center)

Description

Representatives from CONNTAC-EOC are provided with names of students to meet with while the student is still incarcerated. The representatives assist students with their post-secondary plans and financial aid.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Cook/Chef Apprenticeship

Description

This Culinary Arts program is located at the Department of Correction's Central Office CAFÉ 24. It provides theory and hands-on experience in food service in a public cafeteria. Level 2 inmates are transported to CAFÉ 24 where they have an opportunity to learn fundamentals as well as advance study in a setting which prepares them to achieve employment in the food service industry.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Domestic Violence Group

Description

This group is designed for inmates who have committed a domestic violence offense. Successful completion of this program is a requirement for those inmates who enter into the department's community-based transitional supervision program for domestic violence offenders.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Domestic Violence, Family

Educational, Career Resources and Job Fairs

Description

These types of Fairs are conducted in the form of a professional conference for students. The educational staff invite a keynote speaker and students proceed to attend individual workshops on a variety of topics. The goal of these Fairs is to assist inmates with their transition plans before they return to the community.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Embracing Fatherhood

Description

Embracing Fatherhood is a program designed to assist incarcerated fathers in gaining awareness of the important role they play in the lives of their children. This awareness will enable participants to successfully embrace their roles as fathers and begin to build healthy lifestyles that will benefit both their children and them.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Volunteer Group

Types:

Family

Family Education & Parenting

Description

This program is designed to help inmates with children become responsible parents. Inmates have classes in parenting skills and in some cases read children's books into audio or video-cassettes to send home to their children. Components of the parenting skills classes include parenting from a distance, discipline techniques, and communicating with children.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, USD#1

Types:

Family

Family Re-Entry Program

Description

Family Re-entry program offers a comprehensive re-entry program to help individuals and their families make a successful transition from incarceration into the community. A re-entry plan is designed with each individual 3 months before the scheduled release date. Who qualifies? Bridgeport area residents with 3 to 6 months to discharge, firm parole or Transitional Supervision date. Services offered: Individual and family therapy, specialized domestic violence offender programs, substance abuse recovery counseling, life skills programs, parenting education, anger management, Father Helping Fathers groups, connections to service providers for housing, employment and job skills development, health care and financial aid and legal assistance.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types:

Family, Transition

Family Reunification Program

Description

The Family Reunification Program is designed to reconnect fathers being released from the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution with their children. This program is primarily designed for inmates with children living in Hartford, New Britain or Manchester. The Family Reunification Program offers Life Skills Workshops to inmates twice weekly, beginning as early as 18 months prior to anticipated release. Under the guidance of staff and volunteer sponsors, inmate fathers meet their children twice monthly and are encouraged to develop healthy, nurturing relationships and in the process to build a support system for the inmate father. Depending upon space availability, inmates who are not from the above described locations may participate in the program workshops.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Volunteer Services

Types:

Family, Transition

General Educational Development (GED)

Description

The GED is the primary program of instruction for students functioning above an eighth grade level who wish to earn a State of Connecticut high school diploma through the examination process. GED Tutors and volunteers assist Department teachers by helping inmates prepare for the GED Exam and/or by helping to teach basic language skills.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

HIV Counseling, Testing & Risk Reduction Education

Description

When inmates are tested for HIV, the department provides standardized counseling by Department of Public Health certified counselors before and after testing. Counseling components include what HIV and AIDS are, how to get it, how to avoid getting it, what it means to be HIV positive, how to take care of oneself if one is HIV positive, and help in dealing with the associated feelings.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

HIV Support Services

Description

The Department demonstrates a collaborative approach in providing HIV support services to inmates in all facilities. A UCONN (Contracted) Health Services Team coordinates testing and counseling services; the Department's School District conducts classroom instruction about HIV; the Department's Addiction Services Unit Counselors provide HIV education and prevention counseling; a number of volunteers serve as "buddies" or sponsors; and Hartford's Community Partners in Action (CPA) receives funding from foundations, grants as well as support from the state's Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to operate the "Beyond Fear" Program. Altogether the Department hosts a complete program that includes counseling, testing, education focus groups, videos, intervention strategies and is able to assist discharging inmates with need for such services as housing, medical treatment, food, clothing and transportation.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

HIV Volunteer Support Services

Description

In this program volunteers work with individuals and community-based HIV organizations to provide support services to offenders experiencing HIV related issues.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Health Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Health Education

Islamic Video and Discussion

Description

This is a weekly instructional video and discussion group focused on the historical background of Islam, prayer, customs, and traditions. A short discussion follows each video.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Jehovah's Witness Bible Study

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Jehovah's Witness principles.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Jewish Worship and Torah Studies

Description

Jewish Worship services and Torah studies are conducted weekly. During the Holy Days, services are celebrated under the supervision of the Religious Coordinator.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Worship Services

Jumah

Description

Jumah is the weekly Muslim worship service.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Worship Services

Literacy Volunteers of America

Description

An active group of community volunteers, as well as inmate volunteers, contribute hundreds of hours to combat illiteracy for inmates in all of the facilities. Basic reading, vocabulary and comprehension skills are stressed.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1, Volunteer Services

Types:

Academic Education

Narcotics Anonymous

Description

Narcotics Anonymous is a twelve-step fellowship of addicts helping addicts to recover from the disease of addiction. Meetings, in a variety of formats (Step Meetings, Speaker, Speaker/Discussion, etc.), are held on a weekly basis. The meetings are usually conducted by outside volunteers who share their story of addiction and recovery. Addiction Services staff coordinate the meetings and provide oversight for the program.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

Native American Worship

Description

Sacred Circle is a community prayer, which includes smudging. It is celebrated weekly.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious, Worship Services

Peer Mentor Program

Description

Peer Mentors are Tier program graduates who assist Addiction Services staff in the presentation of Tier program groups and 12-Step Fellowship groups. The primary purpose of Peer Mentors is to model a recovery lifestyle for other program participants. Weekly training meetings are required for all Peer Mentors.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Post-Secondary Programs

Description

College and Correspondence Courses are offered in an effort to encourage or prepare students for ongoing educational opportunities (Students pay a tuition and book fee for college courses). One of the main goals is to be able to provide well-behaved inmates an opportunity to be engaged in self-development.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Protestant Bible Study

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Christian principles.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Protestant Bible Study (Spanish)

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with Spanish inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Christian principles.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Protestant Service

Description

This is the weekly Protestant worship service.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Worship Services

Protestant Service (Spanish)

Description

This is the weekly Protestant worship service conducted in Spanish.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Worship Services

Read to Your Children

Description

This program is designed to foster a bond between a child and his/her incarcerated parent. USD#1 creates and maintains a collection of children's books. Inmates can select from a book and read to their child during regular visiting hours. In some cases, inmates enrolled in school can read a book and be videotaped and then send the tape and book to the child.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Family

Special Education and Pupil Services

Description

The special education teachers, pupil services specialists (School Psychologists, School Counselors, School Social Workers), and the associated clerical and durational staff provide services to students with handicapping conditions which interfere with their ability to participate in school. These services are mandated by federal (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997) and state (Connecticut General Statutes 10-76) statute. Special education services encompass a broad array of activities including assessment, counseling, transition planning, and both the direct and indirect (e.g. consultation) services of the special education teachers and pupil services staff. Student programs are designed according to the individual needs of each student with disabilities and are specified in an Individualized Education Plan (IEP.)

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Sponsorship Behind the Walls

Description

This program is designed for inmates participating in a 12-step recovery program. It enables participants to write to an outside sponsor in order to work the 12 steps of recovery.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

Strive Program

Description

STRIVE is a program operated by a number not-for-profit affiliates. Its main goal is to help people get and keep jobs. STRIVE emphasizes developing the kinds of attitudes that are necessary to get and keep a job. It actively assists in job placement for graduates and offers two-year long-term post placement support to help its graduates with whatever problem that threatens their continued success. In this collaborative effort, STRIVE and the Department of Correction staff enrolls the inmates in an intensive three-week program, to begin upon discharge from the facility. The objective of this collaborative program is to keep the participants from returning to the Department of Correction by helping them change their attitude, get a job, and keep the job.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Group

Types:

Transition

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

Description

TESOL is an instructional program for students whose primary language is not English. TESOL instruction helps students to speak, read and write English or assists them in developing the language skills necessary for overall academic and vocational progress.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Tech Prep Program

Description

This is a program that offers opportunities for high school students to earn college credits through work with Community Colleges and USD#1 teachers.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Thinking for a Change

Description

This cognitive behavior program was developed by the National Institute of Corrections. It is designed to help inmates change the way they think, help inmates develop improved social skills, and help inmates learn problem-solving skills. Research links successful completion of such programs to reduced recidivism.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Self Improvement, Youth CDU

Transition/School to Work

Description

The Transition/School to Work program's mission is to place participating students in employment and/or vocational/educational programs and to provide each student with a needs-based transition plan prior to his/her release to maximize potential for successful re-entry into society. School-based and work-based learning opportunities are provided through job and resource fairs, employment skills curriculum, sessions with transition counselors and meetings with a transition coordinator. A USD#1 brochure describing this program is available.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Transitional Linkage into the Community (TLC)

Description

Transitional Linkage into the Community (TLC) is a program of Community Partners in Action which provides discharge planning for inmates with HIV/AIDS. TLC serves every prison and jail in the state, and works with clients returning to every region of the state. TLC case managers meet clients' emergency needs upon release, and connect them with services in their local communities for continuing care and assistance.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Health Services

Types:

Health Education, Transition

V.O.I.C.E.S. (Victim Offender Institutional Correctional Educational Services)

Description

Volunteers support the Department's V.O.I.C.E.S. Program. It is designed to broaden inmates' understanding and sensitivity to the impact of their crime on others.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Victim Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Domestic Violence, Victim

Victim-Offender Dialogue

Description

For a variety of reasons, it is sometimes helpful for victims to meet with offenders. The department's Victim Services Unit evaluates and when appropriate facilitates this dialogue. The process is designed to achieve the objectives of restorative justice, healing the victim, and confronting and holding the offender accountable. Although this process can often be very helpful to the inmate, all such dialogues are initiated at the request of victims.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Victim Services

Types:

Domestic Violence, Victim

Youth Offender Program

Description

Through the use of federal funds, post-secondary education and transition services are provided to "youth offenders" up to the age of 26 who are eligible for parole or release within five years. A transition counselor provides assistance and counseling to encourage participants to acquire functional literacy as well as life/job skills while in prison. Students participate in post-secondary classes, complete portfolios, and develop transition plans and placement.

Facility:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education, Vocational Education